AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) An isolated HF-chondroosteomodulin (COM) polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO[[.]]: 1

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  1  ELTEAQRRGL QVALEEFHKH PPVQWAFQET SVESAVDTPF PAGIFVRLEF
 51  KLQQTSCRKR DWKKPECKVR PNGRKRKCLA CIKLGSEDKV LGRLVHCPIE
101  TQVLREAEEH QETQCLRVQR AGEDPHSFYF PGQF
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and derivatives thereof, wherein

- the derivatives ~~have~~ consist of a core structure consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 and have a length of not more than 150 amino acids; and
- the derivatives will activate the receptor GORI-28 consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 in a functional test with the FLIPR system, so that a receptor activity is measured which is at least 80% of the receptor activity triggered by COM under the same conditions.

12. (Previously Presented) The COM polypeptide or derivatives of claim 11, selected from the group consisting of: amidated, acetylated, phosphorylated and glycosylated polypeptides; or having a pyroglutamate at the N terminus.

13. (Previously Presented) The COM polypeptide or derivatives thereof of claim 11, further comprising a GORI-28 receptor.

Claims 14-15 (Cancelled).

16. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the COM polypeptide or derivatives thereof of claim 11.

17. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide or derivative thereof is a lyophilized form in a solution comprising 3 to 5% (w/v) mannitol.

18. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, comprising a galenic dosage form containing an amount of from 300 µg to 30 mg of purified COM per therapy unit in sterile ampoules for dissolution in physiological saline and/or infusion solutions for repeated single injection and/or permanent infusion.

Claims 19-24 (Cancelled).

25. (Previously Presented) The COM polypeptide or derivatives of claim 11, wherein said receptor activity triggered by a COM derivative is greater than the receptor activity triggered by COM.

26. (Cancelled).

27. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an isolated HF-chondroosteomodulin (COM) polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1

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  1  ELTEAQRRGL QVALEEFHKH PPVQWAFQET SVESAVDTPF PAGIFVRLEF
 51  KLQQTSCRKR DWKKPECKVR PNGRKRKCLA CIKLGSEDKV LGRLVHCPIE
101  TQVLREAEEH QETQCLRVQR AGEDPHSFYF PGQF
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and derivatives thereof, wherein

- the derivatives have a core structure consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 and have a length of not more than 150 amino acids; and

- the derivatives will activate the receptor GORI-28 consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 in a functional test with the FLIPR system, so that a receptor activity is measured which is at least 80% of the receptor activity triggered by COM under the same conditions; and

wherein the polypeptide or derivative thereof is a lyophilized form in a solution comprising 3 to 5% (w/v) mannitol.

28. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an isolated HF-chondroosteomodulin (COM) polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1

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  1  ELTEAQRRGL QVALEEFHKH PPVQWAFQET SVESAVDTPF PAGIFVRLEF
 51  KLQQTSCRKR DWKKPECKVR PNGRKRKCLA CIKLGSEDKV LGRLVHCPIE
101  TQVLREAEEH QETQCLRVQR AGEDPHSFYF PGQF
```

and derivatives thereof, wherein

- the derivatives have a core structure consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 and have a length of not more than 150 amino acids; and

- the derivatives will activate the receptor GORI-28 consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 in a functional test with the FLIPR system, so that a receptor activity is measured which is at least 80% of the receptor activity triggered by COM under the same conditions; and

wherein composition comprises the polypeptide or derivative thereof in a lyophilized form in a solution comprising 3 to 5% (w/v) mannitol and where the composition is a galenic dosage form containing an amount of from 300 μg to 30 mg of purified COM per therapy unit in sterile ampoules for dissolution in physiological saline and/or infusion solutions for repeated single injection and/or permanent infusion.